

MONTEREY COUNTY Labor News

Covering the Counties of Monterey and San Benito

VOL. XVI—NO. 5

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1953

WHOLE NO. 779



PLUMBERS 'WELCOME BACK MARTY' — A huge banner across the front of Plumbers Auditorium on Chicago's Washington Blvd. announcing "Welcome Back Marty!" expressed the feeling of 2,500 members and friends of Chicago Journeymen

Plumbers Union Local 130, as they gave former U. S. Secy. of Labor Martin P. Durkin a cheering ovation. Durkin said the homecoming "means more to me than honor or glory of national office."

Winners Listed For Carpenters' Barbecue Events

Names of event winners at the successful Labor Day Barbecue of Monterey Carpenters Union 1323 were announced last week. The event attracted some 2800 union members, wives and children to the Portuguese FDES picnic grounds.

Tom Stone was general chairman for the event, committee members also including Carroll Fields, Clyde Sweat, Francis Geary, Sam Maxwell, Ebb W. Davis, James Adams and Fred Gano. Others assisting in handling the crowd and many events included Rex McCulloch, Max Kouba, John Fields, James McCulloch, Alfred McCulloch, Willie Sweat, Goldie Kouba, Nora Bell Maxwell, Kathryn Dalton, and others.

Entertainment, under direction of Ladies Auxiliary 674, included western music throughout the day by a 7-piece western band. Auxiliary President Nora Bell Maxwell and Recording Secretary Kathryn Dalton conducted the contests and races. Bill Booker was master of ceremonies for the events.

Winners in the various contests were as follows:

Bubble gum blowing: first, Hazel Kirkbride; second, Jerry Pittas.

Age 1 to 2 years: first, Rose Ann Baroni; second, Nicke Grant; third, Douglas Wilburn.

Age 3 to 5 years: Girls, first, Carolyn Layton; second, Susan Pittas; Boys, first, Donnie Mercurio; second, Bobby Booker.

Age 6 to 10 years: Girls, first, Mary Ann McClay; second, Mary Lee Pittas; Boys, first, Allan Marshall; second, Bobby Woodridge.

Age 11 to 13: Girls, first, Karen Ann Chappell; second, Ann Howell; Boys, first, Dale Smith; second, Andy Justice.

Final results for the day in other races were:

For girls, first, Lyn Fields; second, Rosalie Petty.

For boys, first, Jerry Nelson; second, Mike Cormick.

For girls, first, Kathy Currence; second, Jerry Ernst.

For boys, first, Bobby Woodridge; second, Spiro Pittas.

For girls, first, Karen Ann Chappell; second, Sally Gile.

For boys, first, Jerry Nelson; second, Arvel Hassler.

No Picnic, No Park

St. Louis (LPA)—There was no picnic for the AFL Meatcutters Local 88 this year. Reason: They couldn't find a park big enough to accommodate the expected crowd.

LABORERS 272 BLOOD BANK APPEAL ISSUED

Members of Laborers Union 272 of Salinas were urged this week to donate blood into a special Blood Bank which is being set up through the American Red Cross.

The small daughter of a member needed blood last week and numerous calls have been received from union laborers themselves for blood for transfusions.

The Red Cross Blood Bank accepts blood donations from union members and gives credit so that union members needing blood later may draw from the blood bank.

John F. Mattos, secretary of Local 272, issued the following statement to all union laborers:

"The Laborers Union is trying to establish a Blood Bank for the Laborers Union Local 272. Some of our members and their families are in dire need for blood right now and we never know when you or I might be the next to need it.

"Won't you please be a donor?"

"Please contact the Local Union Office for an appointment with the Blood Bank."

JOHN F. MATTOS,
Sec., Laborers 272"

Carpenters 925 Urged to Attend Oct. 6 Meeting

To All Members of Carpenters Union 925 of Salinas:

This is a special invitation to all members of Local 925 to attend the fourth quarterly meeting of the year, on Tuesday night, October 6, at the union headquarters, 422 N. Main St., Salinas.

We have many very important matters to vote on, matters of interest to all members. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

H. B. BALDWIN
Bus. Agt., LU 925

Teachers Issue First Bulletin

Monterey County Teachers Union 1020 have issued the first school year copy of the union's publication, "The Monterey County Teacher."

The September issue contains a welcome to new teachers from John H. Lewis, president of Local 1020; a summary of the 1952-53 record of Local 1020, and a report by Delegate Fred Clayton on the August convention of the American Federation of Teachers in Peoria, Ill.

State Barbers Retain Agrillo As Sec.-Treas.

Meeting this year in Indianapolis, Indiana, the California State Association of Barbers re-elected Anthony Agrillo, secretary of San Jose Barbers Local 252, as secretary-treasurer but selected several newcomers to fill other offices.

All delegates to the California meeting stayed in Indiana for the international convention which followed.

Agrillo wrote from Indianapolis that the convention had been very successful. Several important resolutions were adopted and referred to the international session.

Officers of the California State Association of Barbers for the new term are:

President — Mel Anderson, of Ventura.

Secretary-Treasurer — Anthony Agrillo, of San Jose.

Vice Presidents, District 1 — Charles Bliss, of San Diego and J. Z. Barnett, of Los Angeles.

Vice presidents, District 2 — James E. Butler Jr., of Salinas, and Ethel Whittington, of Richmond.

Vice presidents, District 3 — M. C. Isaksen, of San Francisco and Olaf Karlstad, of Vallejo.

COUNTY ADOPTS BUILDING CODE

The first building code, electrical code and plumbing code for Monterey County has been adopted by county supervisors and the new codes become effective next January 1, according to Dial H. Miles, business manager of the county Building Trades Council.

Covering urban areas, the new codes are patterned after state sanitary, electrical and uniform building codes, Miles said.

Inspection procedures, standards and fees are established by the new codes.

Organized Labor long has sought to have uniform regulations adopted for the county and cities. Unions will get copies of the new codes and, in turn, instruct members in their usage.

Member Honored

Tulsa, Okla. (LPA)—Honoring the memory of R. E. "Bob" Sullivan, who had served as bargaining committee chairman, members of Local 1093, Auto Workers, contributed funds for a headstone at his grave.

AFL at Peak As Its 72nd Meet Opens

(AFL Release)

St. Louis.—At its peak strength in history, the American Federation of Labor opened its 72d annual convention here to act on a dynamic program for peace, progress and prosperity.

More than 700 delegates gathered in the convention hall of the Jefferson Hotel to hear AFL President George Meany sound a challenging keynote for the week-long sessions.

UPWARD REVISION

They represented 8,654,921 members, a gain of more than half a million since the last convention. But even this new high, taken from the official record for June 1953, is already outdated. Meany was expected to reveal a substantial increase in the membership total as of August, due to upward revision of per capita tax payments by affiliated unions.

With a streamlined program and a news-packed agenda, this convention will attract nationwide and worldwide attention. Many outstanding speakers, including two Cabinet members, are scheduled to address the delegates.

Even more exciting is the prospect of hearing from Martin P. Durkin, who has just resigned as Secretary of Labor. The highly-regarded president of the Plumbers is sure to receive a standing ovation from the delegates.

Besides acting on outstanding national and international issues, the delegates will be called upon to approve a no-raiding agreement with the CIO, a plan for resolving jurisdictional disputes between AFL affiliates, and the construction of a new headquarters building for the federation. Another important recommendation calls for suspension of the International Longshoremen's Association.

DULLES SPEAKER

Political and legislative policy on issues ranging from Taft-Hartley amendments to better housing, higher social security benefits, federal aid to education, civil rights and opposition to reactionary trends on taxes and power will be forged by the delegates.

They are also expected to take strong stands on the need for a more effective foreign policy and for reinforced national defense measures.

Heading the list of speakers are Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and Secretary Oveta Culp Hobby of the new Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Among other speakers scheduled to deliver convention talks are both Senators from Missouri—Stuart Symington and Thomas C. Hennings Jr.—and the independent Senator from Oregon, Wayne Morse.

Arthur Connell, newly elected national commander of the American Legion; Ralph Wright, who heads the Washington office of the ILO, and Col. Justice M. Chambers, assistant administrator of the Civil Defense Administration, have also been invited to speak.

One of the impressive features of the convention will be a special memorial service for the late William Green, who served as AFL president for 28 years before his death last November. The convention will also act on plans for establishing a lasting memorial for Green.

We have only our hands and our union for security and to fight Monopoly Slavery.

Empie Reports On Work Status In Salinas Area

Wray D. ("Bill") Empie, business manager of Salinas Laborers Union 272, issued his first report on area conditions in several weeks last Friday. Empie is recovering from an illness.

Bids are to be opened shortly for construction of the East John St. overpass and the Sanborn Road overpass, both portions of the new Highway 101 freeway which eventually will skirt the Salinas business district.

Todd & Co., Sacramento contractors, are installing railings and concrete work on the North Main St. overpass.

Wulford Fence Co. of San Leandro are putting in markers and striping for the Curtis St. and East Laurel St. intersections with Highway 101.

Near the Kaiser Aluminum Co. plant near Moss Landing, Pisano Bros., San Jose, are completing work on the water lines.

Granite Construction Co. is installing curbs and gutters for the Pacific Park No. 2 subdivision and construction of homes will be started at once.

In the Hollister area, Contractor Gordon Ball is calling for union laborers for a bridge job. Engineers Ltd., of San Francisco, is completing work on a pipe line project, which will be resumed next April with a connection to Milpitas. George Rentz, Hollister contractor, is rushing street repair work.

Strike Actions Feature County Builder Meeting

Several requests for strike sanction were handled by the Monterey County Building Trades Council at last week's meeting, according to Dial H. Miles, council secretary and business manager.

The disputes studied by the council included: Teamsters Union 890 against Central Supply Co. of Watsonville and Salinas; Painters Union 272 against the painting contractors association in Monterey and Monterey Laborers Union 690 against Wagner and Pinkston, plaster contractors.

Miles reported new delegates accepted by the council including E. V. Bird, from Plumbers Union 62 of Monterey; George Sekols and Robert Turner, of Roofers Union 40.

At a recent council meeting, Harry Foster, of Sheet Metal Workers Union 304, reported a wage increase and vacation and welfare benefits gained recently.

SALINAS—Home of California Rodeo

Look What Girls Get ---- Simply by Sticking Together

Point Pleasant, NJ (LPA)—An uprising by 20 girls at the telephone exchange here during a late summer heat wave won the promise of better conditions at Bell system offices throughout New Jersey. With the temperature running up to 100 degrees in their badly ventilated room, the operators, members of the CIO Communications Workers, walked off the job.

They charged the company with failing to live up to an agreement to place 100-pound cakes of ice in front of fans. Instead, penny-pinching officials had bought ice in 25-cent chunks and when these melted the girls were told they would have to suffer until dealers opened next morning.

Earlier the girls here and in other locations had taken up collections to buy air conditioning units but met with company opposition on installation. Ending the overnight walkout, New Jersey Bell agreed to immediately air condition all offices which can be handled by up to three window units each. It previously initiated a program to air condition larger

offices, but explained that would take time. Meanwhile, other means will be employed to cool rooms—more fans and more ice, water on the roof—until the units are in place.

The agreement also included the girls' right to work in shorts and to have a quickie relief every hour for water and soft drinks—furnished by the company.

HIGHWAY DANGER SPOTS

Watch those crossroads! Local traffic moving into a high-speed highway is often the cause of serious trouble. Slacken your speed when you're approaching a road that feeds into the main highway you're driving on.

Give



Local Union Seeks Justice For Schreiber

Chicago.—Leaders of one of the largest labor union locals in Chicago are enlisted in the fight to win justice for Lt. George Schreiber, 25, former Brookfield school teacher sentenced to life imprisonment by a court martial in Korea.

Martin J. Ward, business manager for the AFL Pipefitters, Local 597, said that a resolution urging a fair trial was scheduled to be adopted by the 10,000-member local. Lt. Schreiber's father, Clifford, has been a member of the union for 35 years.

Ward added that he was confident the resolution will be approved by the Chicago Building Trades Council and the Chicago Federation of Labor. It also will be presented to the Illinois State Federation of Labor at its annual convention in Springfield in October, Ward declared.

Lt. Schreiber was convicted of murder Aug. 17 about a year after a Korean native was shot and killed near a bomb dump he was assigned to guard. The young officer was accused of ordering an enlisted man to kill the Korean to cover up a beating administered by another enlisted man of Lt. Schreiber's command.

Arthur J. Meany, a business agent for the union, said he had known Clifford Schreiber and his family for years. He asserted that such a crime would be completely contrary to the character of the elder Schreiber and of his three sons, of whom George is the youngest.

"There are a lot of questions that went unanswered after that court martial," Meany said. "For one thing, why did the air force make an investigation and clear everybody and then reopen it a year later when one of the witnesses had been discharged. I suspect some Korean political influence may have entered this case. We won't be satisfied until all the facts are disclosed."

Marine Firemen In Move to Join AFL Seafarers

(State Fed. Release)

In a history-making maritime shift, the unaffiliated Marine Firemen's Union has voted to join the Seafarers International Union of the American Federation of Labor.

The vote was announced last week by Marine Firemen headquarters in San Francisco. The margin of affiliation was 1,826 to 987, with 50 ballots voided.

Thirty-eight hundred of the union's 6,500 members requested and received ballots.

The Seafarers International Union embraces more than 70,000 AFL maritime members and is headed by President Harry Lundberg and Secretary-treasurer John Hawk. Lundberg is executive officer of the Sailors Union of the Pacific and serves as vice-president of the California State Federation of Labor from the San Francisco district.

They Wonder, Is It Worthwhile?

Old Folks Are Living Longer, But on a Starvation Income

Nelson Cruikshank, director of Social Insurance Activities for the AFL, made a strong plea for Social Security payments realistically adjusted to the higher cost of living, and for the enactment of a health insurance program, as he appeared on "Labor '53," CBS-TV program.

Excerpts from Cruikshank's remarks follow:

"The higher standard of living has absolutely no meaning unless it is also a high standard of security. Security doesn't mean a dole; it doesn't mean a handout; it means insurance. While our technology has moved into the jet age, our programs of social insurance, are old fashioned and a good deal less than adequate.

WE'RE LIVING LONGER

"Our population is growing older. In 1900 those over 65 numbered three million. In 1952 they numbered 13 million.

"That's close to 10 percent of our population. It will be 10 percent during our lifetime. We're living longer, thanks to the sulfa drugs and penicillin and the new antibiotics. But a great many elderly people are wondering whether it's worthwhile.

"In 1950 more than 30 percent of all families in which the head of the household was 65 or over had a family income of less than \$1,000 a year. Fifty-two percent had incomes of less than \$2,000 a year. These aged men and women are simply not able to get along at a time when they are least able to help themselves.

"Their little pensions, their meager savings, accumulated through years and years of self-deprivation and self denial, has been rudely, unmercifully slashed by inflation. The dollars they saved with so much faith are now worth 50 cents; and the cost of the

medical and social services they require has now soared out of reach.

ILL HEALTH COSTLY

"Ill health costs workers and their families more than \$4 billion in lost wages last year. But the cost is not measurable only in dollars. There is a cost of insecurity of unhappiness, of lives overshadowed with worry.

"The AFL is not opposed to a balanced budget; but we are opposed to it when it means unbalanced lives. Hundreds of AFL unions now maintain their own health insurance programs. They have won these health programs through collective bargaining.

"Today the health programs we have won through free enterprise are under attack as collectivism. What always puzzles me is that insurance against death—which cannot be softened or avoided—is good old free enterprise. But insurance against sickness—which is preventable and whose shock can be eased—is somehow a nasty Socialist word.

"Let's face facts. Today we have an urgent need for hospitals, for doctors, for dentists, for medical schools, for nurses, for medical technicians. We're going to have to fight for legislation."

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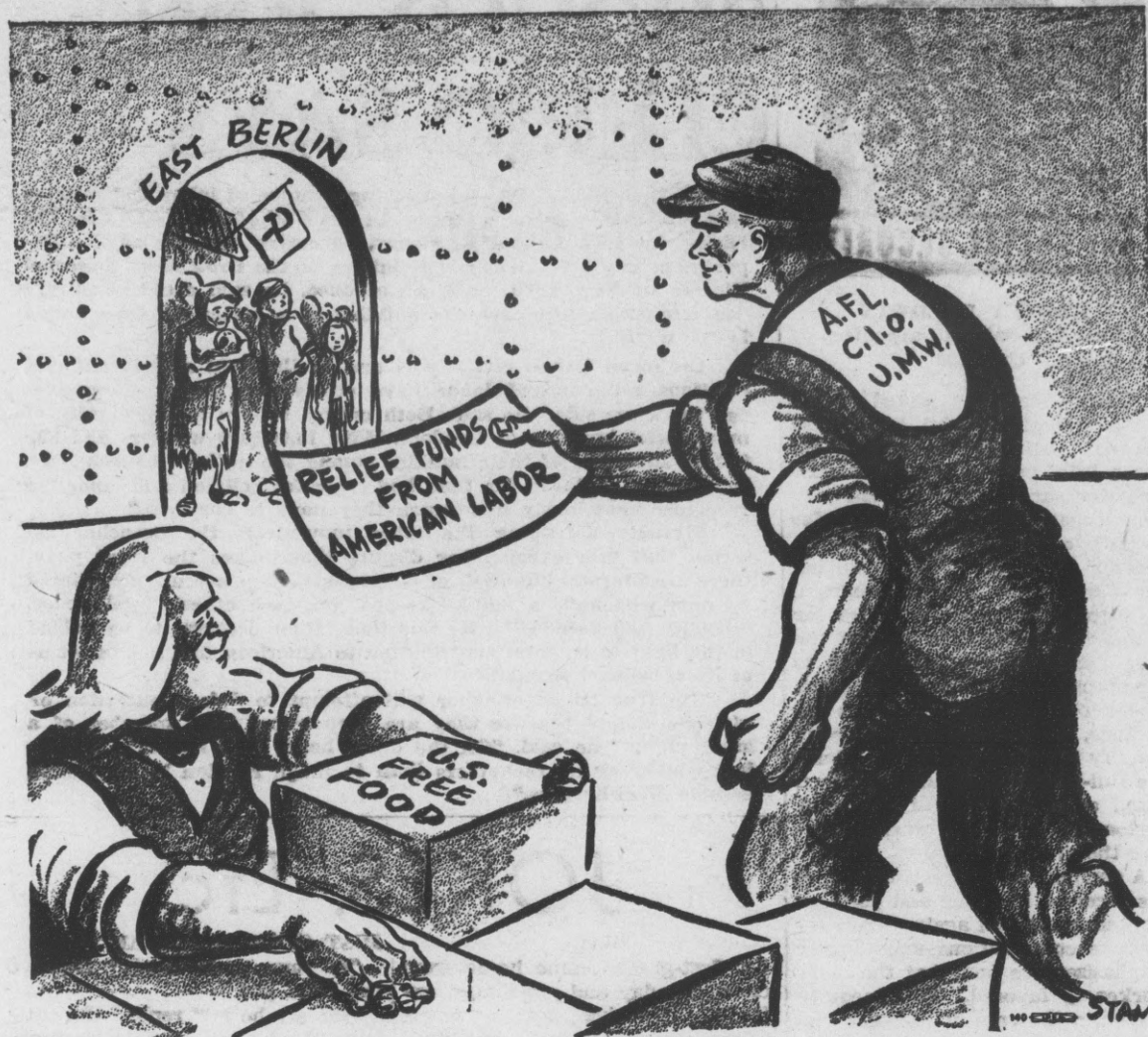
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Fill Calif. Farm Slave Market With Mex. Influx--Nixon Goal

Los Angeles (LPA)—A report that Vice President Richard M. Nixon is expected to ask the Justice Department to ease its stepped-up campaign to curb the flow of Mexican "wetbacks" into the U.S. was published Sept. 6 in the Los Angeles Times.

Brown in Blast at Wetback Exploiters

(State Fed. Release)

In the face of mounting attempts by Big Money forces to condone and foster the illegal immigrant traffic from Mexico, Attorney General Edmund G. Brown last week told the San Francisco Bar Association that a "multitude of crimes" are being covered under the term "wetback."

"What appears to be an economic problem of getting 'stoop labor' to handle the year-around harvests has grown into a grave social problem, involving murder, prostitution, robbery, and a gigantic illegal narcotic infiltration," Brown declared.

"When one realizes that an average of more than 1,000 Mexicans a day are slipped into this country illegally, and that 416,000 'wetbacks' were returned to Mexico in the fiscal year 1952-53 by our Immigration Service, it can readily be seen that we have all the ills and evils of an illegal underground and underworld operation."

"Those who deal in the smuggling of 'wetbacks' are labor contractors who get a take from both sides of the border. The charge for smuggling a 'wetback' into the United States is \$100 to \$125 a head, while ranchers on the American side of the border pay the contractor \$25 a head for the labor. The contractor also sets up the so-called housing and the feeding for the 'wetbacks'—for which the 'wetback' pays heavily."

"Pimps and procurers set themselves up in business with a handful of prostitutes, using their automobiles, hidden in wooded places, as brothels. Marijuana and other narcotics go hand in hand with these illicit communities, and expand their operations into other communities."

"This malignant growth is a threat to our society, and can only be met by recognizing its existence and taking steps toward its eradication. This requires more personnel to effect more control, tighter legislation, and swift justice."

The story said GOP Congressman John Phillips and Robert C. Wilson, both from California's rich Imperial Valley farming area, had complained that the recent "overzealousness" of the Immigration Service in rounding up "wetbacks" was threatening a labor shortage on valley farms. The nickname "wetbacks" come from the fact that many Mexicans swim or wade the Rio Grande during their illegal entry.

The Times said Nixon would take these complaints to Attorney General Herbert Brownell who ordered a crack-down on the wholesale illegal influx of Mexicans following a recent tour of the border.

Shortly after, John Holland, director of the San Antonio office of the Immigration Service, said he had been advised that 200 new Border Patrol officers would be added to his present force of 300 within two months. At present, there are about 750 officers patrolling the 1600-mile border from Brownsville, Tex., to San Diego, Calif.

The "wetbacks" enter the U.S. at the rate of about a million a year and it is estimated that for every one caught, one or more gets away. The AFL National Agricultural Workers Union has charged repeatedly that the farmers encourage the "wetback" traffic to ensure a supply of cheap labor.

As illegal immigrants avoiding law officials, the "wetbacks" work for whatever they can get and often have nothing left after deductions are made from their wages for the wretched food and housing they get. American farm workers, meanwhile, are left without jobs.

The farmers also have available a supply of legal Mexicans imported by agreement between the U.S. and Mexico for the harvest season. Their wages and working conditions are fixed by contract.

The Times story said Wilson had proposed that legal Mexicans be permitted to come into the country without a contract, provided farmers "make pledges these workers will be turned over to the Immigration Service when the crops they have been hired to pick are harvested."

BIG BUSINESS 'MONOPOLIZING' ATOM PLANTS

St. Louis.—An emphatic warning that private companies operating the nation's atomic energy plants are engaging in "monopolistic practices" and are virtually dictating to labor and the government was sounded by President James A. Brownlow at the opening of the 44th annual convention of the AFL Metal Trades Department. Believing "that they are indispensable and, as such, a law unto themselves," these companies, it would appear, are operating the plants for their own benefit "rather than for the people of the United States," Brownlow charged.

OFFERS PROGRAM

He offered this eight-point program to the Administration in connection with the establishment of a new Atomic Energy Labor Relations Panel, to prevent interruption of production by industrial disputes:

1. Collective bargaining of every phase of the dispute should be exhausted before resorting to the use of the panel.
2. Affiliates of the department will request or accept the service of the panel.
3. The department or its affiliates will not enter into an over-all no-strike pledge with the panel or the U.S. Government.
4. Decisions of the panel will be accepted as final and binding and constituting a no-strike pledge for the term of the contract, if the agreement is entered into by both employer and employee. Hearings should start within seven days, should not take more than seven days, and shall include no cessation of work for at least seven days after a decision.
5. Request for panel intervention should come from the union, or the department, or the company.
6. Items agreed upon before panel intervention should be final and binding in the panel award.
7. No restraint should be placed upon the panel.
8. The U.S. Mediation and Conciliation Service should be asked to lend its assistance.

REVIEW OF SHIPPING

The convention heard a review of recommendations to Congress for maintenance of a sustained U.S. merchant marine. "National emergencies must never again," said the report, "find us dependent upon the ships of other nations to carry our troops or other implements of war." A work force of at least 130,000 was recommended.

STATE REJECTS AFL PLEAS ON BLUE CARD

(State Fed. Release)

Final breakdown of negotiations between the AFL and the California Department of Employment regarding the newly established system of unemployment insurance certification was announced this week by C. J. Haggerty, secretary-treasurer of the California State Federation of Labor.

A 15-man AFL committee and representatives of the Department of Employment had held two meetings this month in San Francisco relative to the disputed unemployment insurance clearance program established September 1, by the state agency.

In a communication sent to affiliated unions and councils, Haggerty revealed that while the AFL committee adopted a "conciliatory attitude," the Department of Employment was adamant "as to all the critical provisions and would not agree to even minor changes." The AFL committee voted unanimously that nothing would be served by calling additional meetings. The committee further declared it had no recommendation to make to unions offered the new "cooperative agreement" by the Department of Employment.

The AFL committee was appointed at a conference called by the State Federation, August 19, in San Francisco. At this session, complaints against the newly proposed system were reviewed and debated by 285 AFL delegates from all parts of California.

Under the previous "Union I.D. or Blue Card" system, labor unions were able to certify that their members were actively seeking work in accordance with provisions of the state unemployment insurance law. Such certifications were then accepted by the Department of Employment as clearance for possible insurance payment.

The Department of Employment announced this June that a new and "tighter" clearance program would be established August 1, 1953. However, upon request of the State Federation of Labor, the old "Blue Card" system was extended for 30 days pending discussion between AFL representatives and Employment Director James G. Bryant.

Bryant attended the August 19 conference and also met with the 15-man AFL committee at the meetings of September 1 and 3.

Only unions signing a so-called "cooperative agreement," or contract will be allowed to certify unemployed members under the new state system. Terms of the contract have been branded unfair by various AFL unions and councils.

The State Federation of Labor called two state-wide conferences on the subject, the first being held June 13 and the second, August 19. The "Blue Card" system was originally established in 1948 as the result of an understanding between the State AFL and the Department of Employment.

Teamsters to Join In Celebration of Truck Transport Week

Washington (LPA)—Leaders of labor, employers, operators and suppliers in the trucking industry will join in celebrating Truck Transportation Week, Nov. 16 to 22. Plans for hailing the place of motor transport in the nation's economic life are being made under auspices of the Independent Advisory Committee to the Trucking Industry, headed by Teamsters' President Dave Beck.

Beck also is co-chairman of the observance, which will be marked by dinners in major cities. Included on the policy committee to guide the events are Teamsters' Vice-President Einar Mohn and Guy Williams, head of the union's news bureau.

Commenting on plans for the celebration, Beck said: "This is a rare opportunity for all elements of the trucking industry to show the general public the place which motor transport occupies in modern America. This is an opportunity for this industry to do a great educational job on behalf of motor transport."

DECENT HOMES FOR ALL PEOPLE IS AFL GOAL

Boris Shishkin, secretary of the AFL Housing Committee, said on "Labor '53," CBS Labor Day television program, that the United States will need 12½ million more housing units by 1960, and that the only practical answer is continuance of a public housing program.

Shishkin denounced the killing of the 1949 Housing Act by the 83d Congress, and declared also that, "A heavy blow has been struck at the homebuyer of modest means."

25 MILLION UNPROTECTED

"Interest rates on FHA-insured mortgage loans and on mortgage loans to veterans have gone up. At the same time, rent controls were killed. Twenty-five million people were left without protection against sharp rent increases. Even in the case of housing occupied by the families of enlisted men, rents have been allowed to jump, so that now the higher rent exceeds the housing allowance that is provided."

In his review of the year on housing, Shishkin said that the objective of the AFL in housing is simply:

"A decent home for every American family."

Shishkin declared, as pictures of U. S. slums were shown in film, that by 1960 the U. S. will have 8,600,000 substandard dwelling units.

Harry W. Flannery, who discussed the situation with Shishkin, commented during the showing of the slum pictures:

"This is the erosion of the human personality. You cannot measure the cost of slums in dollars and cents. You can only measure it in terms of the degradation of the individual. In terms of broken homes, broken lives, juvenile delinquency, tuberculosis, rheumatic fever, and diseases of poverty."

"And we of organized labor feel that the only practical answer to the slum is the low-cost public housing program."

STATISTIC AREN'T HUMAN

"The Housing Act of 1949 provided for the building of 13 thousand public housing units every year. Now 135,000 is a number, and a number is only a statistic. It doesn't grow warm when it sits in the sun; it isn't happier because it has its own room, or because the roof doesn't leak. A statistic is only a statistic."

"But human beings have flesh. A human being can smile, he can aspire, he can love, and be worthy of life, and wish to rear his children in cleanliness and decency."

"For 135,000 slum families each year this is what the public low-cost housing program meant. And then this year, without warning or notice, the 83d Congress cried 'halt!'"

"Work on all but 20,000 units was stopped cold. Beyond that, the whole Public Housing Program was killed."

Postal Association's Convention, Oct. 12-16

Richmond, Va.—The National Postal Transport Association, formerly the Railway Mail Association, will hold its 41st annual convention at the Hotel Jefferson, Oct. 12 to 16.

One hundred and eighteen delegates will attend the meeting, one of the highlights of which will be installation of officers who were re-elected in June 1953.

If your Congressman makes you sore
Give LLPE a dollar for '54.

MONTEREY COUNTY LABOR NEWS

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vertisements or signed communications printed herein.

History—and the Future

Twenty years ago this month—in September 1933—when millions of people were losing their savings at the depth of the depression, the American Bankers Association stubbornly fought against the insurance of bank deposits.

The proposed Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation was termed "Socialistic"—although its purpose was to keep banks, as well as their depositors, solvent. Today, bank deposit insurance is generally accepted as a good thing.

That's just another example of how nearly every effort to help the plain people is smeared before it becomes part of the warp and woof of Americanism.

Today, the smearing continues. Public housing, to help poor families live in decency and a minimum of comfort, is "Socialism." Public power to help workers, farmers and small businessmen, is "creeping Socialism." National health insurance, to permit families to get medical attention without fearing the doctor's bill, is more of the same. Federal aid to education to help our children receive better schooling, still more of the same.

Only through the concentrated, unrelenting effort of working men, farmers, white-collar workers and small businessmen in the political field can such programs for the benefit of all America be established permanently and the charge of "Socialism" proven wholly false.

Trap for Business, Too

If businessmen support a move to have Congress pass a national sales tax, they will hurt their own best interests.

In the words of George Harrison, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, the businessman "cannot increase his profits by shifting taxes to his consumers."

"He will find instead that the sales tax will reduce his business and dry up the source of all his profits," Harrison said. He pointed out that corporation profits, even after high taxes, are now the biggest in history.

If the corporation executive will take a good, hard second look at a sales tax, he will have to conclude that it would hurt him along with the mass of men and women who would have to pay more money for clothes, housing and other necessities and comforts.

If a sales tax is proposed, it is bound to raise the question of why the Administration insists on soaking the poor to help pay the costs of government while it increases those same costs through higher interest rates and giving away vast amounts of the nation's resources to private interests.

Some Shackling

The National City Bank of New York reports that the combined net income, after taxes and expenses, of 550 of the nation's biggest corporations amounted to \$2.8 billion during the first six months of the year. That was 17 per cent more than they earned during the first half of 1952.

The year to date, says the bank, "has been near-record activity in residential building, in business outlays for new plant and equipment, in road building and public works, and in the production of steel, automobiles, television sets, household appliances and numerous types of other durable goods."

Is that what the National Association of Manufacturers, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, the Dan Reeds and the Everett Dirksens mean when they say business is "being shackled" by high corporation and excess profits taxes?



HARVEY BALDWIN
Bus. Agt. Salinas Carpenters
Union 925

We are sometimes asked why it is that workers who have been covered by the Social Security Act for a brief period and whose contributions are therefore small may draw substantial benefits. In order to give adequate retirement protection to older persons during the early years of the program, full-rate benefits are provided for regular workers, even though the length of time they contribute to the program is relatively short. Under old age and survivors insurance, just as under most group annuity and private pension plans, the full-rate benefits are, in effect, based on recognition of the work performed by older workers before the program began.

A comparison between the benefits received by older and younger workers measured against their respective contributions undoubtedly emphasizes the fact that the older worker is favored. This inequity is true in the case of workers who retire in the years immediately following a "new start" such as the one given by the 1950 amendments. As time goes on it will disappear. The "new start" was carefully considered by the Advisory Council on Social Security to the Senate Finance Committee which recommended it (Senate Document No. 149, 80th Congress, Second Session) as the best solution among various alternatives. Apparently the Congress followed the same reasoning.

For further information on these or any other points regarding your Social Security, get in touch with the Social Security Field Office located at the address below.

Your Security Office is at 196 San Augustine St., San Jose 10. Phone CYpress 2-2480.

All Have Problems As Schools Re-open

Houston (LPA)—Troubled by the problem of having your children attending overcrowded schools—or perhaps transportation is difficult? Well, even Texas, land of oil millionaires, has education troubles, if you're interested.

Complained Kraus Earhart, "oil man and civic leader," to School Superintendent W. E. Moreland: "How do they expect a youth to get an education, when they don't provide parking facilities for his car? Often my boy has had to walk two or three blocks to get to school."

Diseases of the skin account for 50 per cent of all occupational disease cases in California.

The job you save may be your own—buy union!

CHURCH, LABOR SHOULD JOIN, CLERIC SAYS

NEW YORK (LPA)—A working alliance of labor and religion was proposed here in a sermon in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine by Rev. Leland B. Henry, executive director of the Department of Christian Social Relations of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of New York. Such an alliance, he said could constitute "an irresistible force for the building of a better America and a better world."

On social issues, civil rights and in the field of international relations religion and labor have consistently found themselves "on the same side," he said. Both groups believe in the dignity of man, social justice and freedom. With 15,000,000 workers and 30,000,000 members of their families among the nation's churchgoers, Rev. Henry declared the time had come for religion and labor "to recognize consciously how much they have in common."

Strongly defending the labor movement, the preacher asserted that "for every labor dispute that makes the front page, there are literally hundreds of labor contracts peacefully negotiated by men who have a mutual respect for each other's intelligence, integrity and good will." He said that "labor deserves to be judged in the light of its total contribution to American life, not in terms of its occasional scandal."

"No true friend of labor will attempt to defend extortion or violence simply because they are perpetrated by a member of a labor union," he said. "On the other hand, it is no more just to judge labor by its racketeers than to judge religion by its Aimee Semple MacPhersons."

JOKES. Etc.

Magic

A first-grader came home from school one day and announced excitedly, "They've got a magic record player at our school!"

"A magic record player?" asked his mother, puzzled.

"Yes," explained the boy. "You don't have to plug it into electricity. You don't even need electricity to make it play. All you do is wind up a crank!"

Aunt Minnie says she can't understand why folks smoke because half of every cigarette goes for taxes and the other half goes into the ashtray.

JUST SLIGHTLY DEAF

"Is your uncle deaf?" inquired the little girl.

"I'll say he is!" replied the little boy. "Last night he said his prayers while he was kneeling on the cat!"

FRIENDLY GESTURE

"When I looked out the window, Johnny, I was glad to see you playing marbles with the boy next door," observed the mother.

"We weren't playing marbles," said Johnny. "We just had a fight and I was helping him pick up his teeth."

Uncle Remus says that men who owe everything to their wives should pay them off once in a while with a compliment.

THEN THE FUN BEGAN

"Sir," said the city lad to the farmer, "if I cut through your pasture here, will I catch the 7:30 train on time?"

"Son," replied the farmer, "if my bull sees you, you'll catch the 6:30 train."

SPLURT!

"Why does Geraldine let all the boys kiss her?" asked Martha.

"She once slapped a lad who was chewing tobacco," explained Gertie.

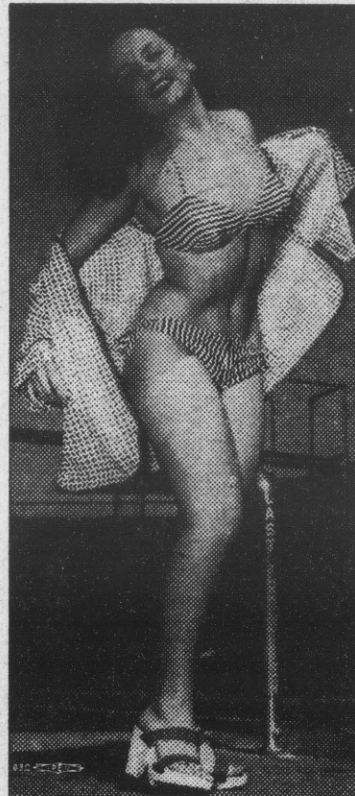
IT'S TOUGH TO BE RICH DEPT.

"Almost everybody in the country really wants pretty much the same thing, whether he's got 15 cents or \$10 million—although he's probably got more worries if he's got \$10 million."—Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey in a Saturday Evening Post interview, May 23, 1953.

Lonely baby chick taking a look around the electric incubator full of unhatched eggs:

"Well, it looks as if I'll be an only child. Mother has blown a fuse."

Attend your meetings!



JUST TOO HOT—That's the sentiment of Las Vegas, Nev., showgirl Kalan Tan as she strips to the bare essentials for a cooling swim. (LPA)

"UNION MAID"—A Serial Story

by Stan Jennings



*Spend Your Vacation
in Beautiful . . .*

Monterey County!

Carp. President Becomes Father

A baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Gene Norman of Seaside, little James Stephen making his appearance at 3:53 a.m. August 31. Norman is president of Monterey Carpenters Union 1323.

The union official writes: "James Stephen topped the scales at 8 lbs. His three brothers were very anxious to see him. His mother (Mrs. Emma Jean Norman) seems to think the stork a very mean old bird—it has been rumored that she was hoping for a girl!"

A dollar from you and a dollar from me—
Join Labor's League in '53.

Al Clark Begins Annual Vacation

Secretary-Treasurer Alfred J. Clark of the Central Labor Council of Monterey County, at Salinas, began his annual vacation this week. Clark also is secretary of Culinary-Bartenders Union 355.

The union leader said he had no plans for the vacation, but that he and Mrs. Clark would start out in their car for a trip which would depend entirely on weather and scenery conditions as they traveled.

Gop-Biz is stealing the U.S.—
back your union!

Let's all resolve in '53
To give our dollar to LLPE.

USF Opens Fall Labor School Term With More Classes

Fall term of the University of San Francisco's labor-management school, from October 6 to December 1, with classes open to all labor people each Tuesday evening, will open with registration to be held October 3 and on opening night, October 6.

More than 1,300 persons have availed themselves of this unique service offered by the University in the past four years. Classes are held on the university campus, and there are no previous educational requirements. The courses carry no college credits, but a certificate of completion is given those who fulfill the requirements.

No tuition fees are charged, but a voluntary registration fee of \$5 will help to cover the school's minimum expenses.

Classes are open to union members and representatives of management in the field of personnel or labor relations.

There are three one-hour periods each Tuesday evening from 7:15 to 10:05 p.m. Here are the titles of the classes offered:

First hour: Parliamentary principles, moral principles of industrial peace, principles of constructive leadership, collective bargaining clinic, and sociology.

Second hour: Present position of unions, parliamentary practice (advanced), changed economic conditions of America, collective bargaining clinic (continued from first period), and health-welfare and pension plans.

Third hour: Public speaking, public speaking (advanced), propaganda analysis, basic economic ideas, and English.

Frances Haynes On Vacation Trip

Office Manager Frances Haynes, veteran employee of General Teamsters Union 890, is on vacation with her husband this week. Friends said she was on a trip to Texas and way points. She is due back next week.

Mattos Mourns His Grandmother

Secretary John F. Mattos of Laborers Union 272 of Salinas was saddened last week by the death of his grandmother, Mrs. Pilar Mattos, of Soledad.

Mrs. Mattos was 74 and had been ill in a hospital for several weeks.

Mrs. Hobby Agrees U.S. Has Problems On Health, Aged

San Francisco.—Mrs. Oveta Culp Hobby, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, has admitted that the financial problem of catastrophic illness has not been solved for the average family, nor has the problem of care for "our retired senior citizens."

Addressing the 55th annual convention of the American Hospital Assn., she said "private enterprise" must find the way "to save any average family from destruction by the catastrophe of illness."

The rich and the poor, she declared, are well cared for, but the middle-income family "is severely hurt financially" by catastrophic illness, and this group is "frankly and ardently in favor of socialized medicine."

Labor is not in favor of socialized medicine, but does favor national health insurance.

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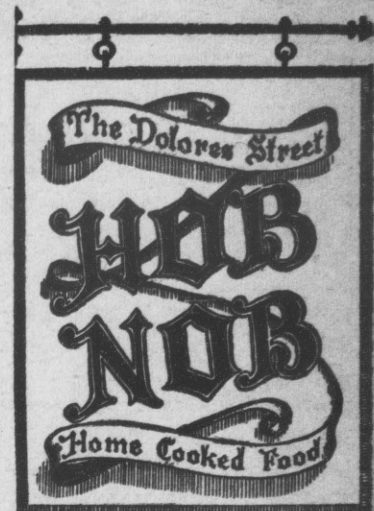
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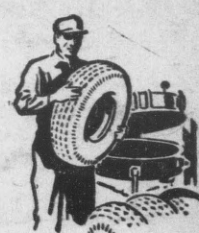
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May we remind all members at this time how important it is to keep your dues in good standing at all times. None of us know what the future holds in store for us, and in the case of death, insurance claims cannot be paid unless the deceased member is in good standing.

We wish to express our sympathy to the family of Byron Johncox, who passed away following an automobile accident. Mrs. Johncox will receive payment from both the group life insurance and from the welfare plan since Byron was a member in good standing.

VISITOR FROM MAINE

We were honored last week by a visitor from the state of Maine, Mr. David Hasting who is business agent for Local 340 covering that state. He was very much amazed at our various scales of wages in this area in comparison with his area. He gave as an example the line drivers and construction drivers who are on an average scale of \$1.35 to \$1.50 per hour in that state. He states there are many divisions unorganized in that part of the country.

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YOUR BLOOD BANK

You have heard the appeal for blood many times. The need is as great as ever, but donations by our members seem to be falling off. You may make your appointment either by calling the union office or the Red Cross office. It gives us pleasure to list those who gave this month: Glenn Hall, Louis Corbari, Luther Wheeler, Ed Moe, Gerald Herrin and your office secretary, Bernice Redlin.

WELFARE

We would like to call your attention to the fact that through our welfare plans the amount paid during the last year in hospital and doctor claims has amounted to over \$40,000. We are still striving to contain welfare plans in all of our agreements.

LUMBER DRIVERS

At a special meeting held with the lumber drivers on September 16, a five cents per hour increase was accepted.

Unionist Honored

St. Louis (LPA)—A "distinguished Guest Medal" was awarded by American Legion officials to Robert "Barney" Baker because he stopped a threatened taxi strike so as not to inconvenience visitors and delegates to the Legion convention. Baker is director of organization of the St. Louis Teamsters Joint Council.



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Thoughts For Today

No H-Bomb Defense

As if high temperatures and the humidity weren't enough, Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, new Chief of Staff of the Army, told America's large cities that they could not expect, in case of war, an airtight defense against bombardment by atomic or hydrogen bombs. It would take all the nation's resources to create an attack-proof air screen and even so, it might turn out to be as ineffective as the Maginot Line in the last war, he said. The strategy of the armed forces, he made it clear, is to engage the enemy as far afield as possible and not to be tied down to a static defense.

Get a Union

That "a policeman's lot is not a happy one" is more than just a line in a song. It's now an official fact. As the result of low pay and long hours, the highest turnover in history was reported in the police departments in New York State. The number of policemen who turned in their uniforms and quit in the past year more than doubled the normal rate. The Police Conference of the State, composed of 200 Policemen's Benevolent Associations, found the trend "alarming." It is not smart to argue with cops, but maybe they ought to get a union.

Hashish and News

A Greek alien was arrested in New York City with ten pounds of hashish in his possession. The authorities couldn't place a value on the haul because this form of narcotic is so rare in America. It is a concentrate of Indian hemp, which is smoked in the Orient to induce pipe dreams or even dope stories. Some newsmen in this country appear to get the same effect from plain, ordinary tobacco.

Prejudice Thrives On Insecurity, Declares Hayes

Philadelphia (LPA)—Prejudice thrives on insecurity, Al J. Hayes, president of the International Association of Machinists, told the conference of the National Urban League here.

Therefore, said Hayes, "it is vitally important to all segments of American society that we work constantly to maintain and to improve the economic climate which eliminates insecurity and fear, and permits the development of good relations between all classes and groups of people."

Specifically that means, Hayes continued, that we must maintain a high level of employment, and seek constant improvement of our social security system. In that connection, he expressed deep concern over the current attacks on social security, the virtual abandonment of the machinery set up by the Employment Act of 1946, and the inaction of the Joint Congressional Committee on the Economic Report.

Stressing the obligation of the IAM to cooperate with all other worthy groups "in gaining for every man his full rights in our free society," Hayes said that nevertheless "much of the work to be done in eliminating discrimination must be done at the community level."

He added that "once it has been done there, we will have no problem of discrimination in labor unions, or in housing, or in employment, or anywhere else, because there will be no discrimination at all."

Wood, Blacksmith, Author of Pamphlet

Chicago.—Michael Wood, president of Local 247, AFL Blacksmiths, is author of an illustrated pamphlet on "Occupational Deafness," distributed by the Committee for the Nation's Health, 2212 M St. N.W., Washington 7, D. C.



CAPITAL'S FIRST LABOR DAY MASS.—A procession to the monument honoring James Cardinal Gibbons, staunch champion of the old Knights of Labor, followed the first Labor Day mass in Washington. Archbishop O'Boyle celebrated the mass attended by many labor officials, including AFL Pres. Geo. Meany, right. Former Labor Secy. Martin Durkin spoke at the ceremonies. (LPA)

AFL Says Most Unions Won 'Substantial' Raises in '53

Washington (LPA)—"Despite the more guarded attitude on the part of employers and relatively small rise in the cost of living," wage increases of substantial amounts were won generally by trade unions, the AFL Research Department reported in an analysis of settlements made during the first half of 1953.

"The scattered instances in which agreement are being renewed without an increase are found for the most part in markedly depressed industries, particularly textiles," said the current Research Report. And "in practically all instances, the increases are considerably more than mere token adjustments and are well in excess of the rise in cost of living since previous negotiations."

The report cites a tabulation by the Bureau of National Affairs, a private research organization, of more than 2000 general wage increases which shows that nearly two-thirds provide 7 cents or more an hour while fully 40% were for 10 cents or more. In many instances, too, the increases are in addition to automatic cost-of-living or "annual improvement factor" raises made effective during the term of the preceding agreement.

Wage adjustments previously denied by the now defunct Wage Stabilization Board "have in many cases been put into effect, with retroactivity, and many have been supplemented by further increases" the report continues. "Also some unions have urged that current negotiation take into account the fact that increases during the stabilization period were smaller than they would have been in the absence of government restraints."

The report pointed out it was significant "that a number of existing long-term agreements, most notably the five-year ones in the auto manufacturing industry, have been renegotiated before their scheduled negotiation date to provide additional wage adjustments. Unions have sought such revisions in the light of changed economic conditions, even though the contracts technically were not subject to wage reopening."

Escalator clauses are losing popularity, the research department found. "In some instances the tie between wages and the consumer price index has been eliminated. In cases where escalators have been renewed, it has been common to provide that escalation increases put into effect in the past shall be considered permanent, that is, not subject to automatic reduction in the event the cost of living should drop."

Contrasting with the years immediately following World War II when wage agreements in major manufacturing industries followed closely "pace-setting" contracts, it 863.

was found that "patters" held less influence. Pointing out that no trend was apparent in duration of agreements, the report said that while one year is by far the most common length, many unions are still signing contracts for longer periods, although seldom for more than two years.

Blast Boulders From Salmon Spawn Route

Red Bluff—Scaling a sheer canyon wall by rope ladder to set their dynamite charges, California Department of Fish and Game stream improvement workers have blasted through a boulder jam in Mill Creek, Tehama County, to complete one of the first of many stream clearance projects now under way.

In the toughest assignment of its type, dynamite, tools, gasoline and even a portable generator had to be back-packed in to do the job.

Completion of the Federal aid project means the opening up of many miles of good spawning stream to migrating steelhead trout and salmon.

Mill Creek, one of the Sacramento River's larger and more important salmon spawning tributaries, had been at least partially blocked by the giant boulders for many years. Wedged wall-to-wall in a narrow gorge, they cut off the stream only six miles above its confluence. An earlier passage cleared by a Department crew in 1952 had been blocked again by last winter's high water.

Salmon were present below the jam when he and his assistant arrived, according to L. F. Mongold, project chief. Ten days later, before he could pick up his tools after the last blast, two salmon had made their way through the new four-foot passage and into an upstream pool.

Complete cost of the project, including crew salaries, was \$626. For this expenditure, three-quarters of which was supplied under the Federal Dingell-Johnson program, upper reaches of the stream were opened up and a natural hatchery capable of processing millions of salmon eggs was back in operation, Mongold reports.

Property damage in 899 accidents at grade crossings in the state in 1952 is estimated at \$897,000.

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MEANY UPHOLDS ACTION OF DURKIN IN RESIGNING

AFL President George Meany fully upheld Martin P. Durkin's action in resigning as Secretary of Labor on a lively "Meet the Press" TV show. Meany emphasized that Durkin would not have turned in his resignation if it were merely a "White House clerk" who had broken faith with him on amendment of the Taft-Hartley Act.

DURKIN TRUTHFUL MAN

"I think Durkin felt the President of the United States broke an agreement with him—otherwise he would not have resigned," Meany told the reporters questioning him. "I believe Durkin felt he had an agreement because he said so—and he is a very truthful man."

Successfully matching wits with the panel of newsmen, Meany made these further points:

1. That 12 of the 19 proposed amendments to the T-H law on which Durkin had obtained White House agreement, only to have it later repudiated, were identical with proposals the late Sen. Robert A. Taft had himself introduced in Congress under his own name.

2. That while the Department of Commerce top officials had objected to the Durkin program, they had been overruled by Eisenhower and orders had been issued for a Presidential message to be sent to Congress before the death of Sen. Taft caused a fatal delay.

BUSINESS PROTESTED

3. That when contents of the proposed message "leaked out" to the press, business leaders protested and put so much pressure on the White House that the whole plan was reconsidered.

4. That the 19 original proposals for changing the T-H Act were not acceptable to labor as a final answer to the problem of labor-management relations legislation, but constituted "an improvement" of the present law.

Asked whether Durkin's action would "widen labor's breach with the Administration," Meany said the AFL had not broken with the Administration but had, from the beginning, tried to work with it, as

it always does with the government, regardless of its political makeup.

When pressed for an opinion on the political effect on labor of the resignation, Meany emphasized that "I don't control the vote of anyone but myself."

Meany said he would decide whether to make a recommendation on Durkin's successor when and if he is asked to submit any recommendations. He said he had not been consulted in advance on Durkin's appointment.

Sales Drop, Taxes Rise, Profits Leap, For Stevens' Firm

New York (LPA)—Sales dropped 6 per cent, and taxes increased 470 per cent, but nevertheless profits leaped 510 per cent. That's the record for the quarter ended Aug. 1, 1953, compared with the like period in 1952 for J. P. Stevens & Co., Inc., one of the giants of the textile industry. Robert T. Stevens, Secretary of the Army, formerly was board chairman.

The firm holds large defense contracts and is now located mostly in the South, where it has successfully fought unionization.

Sales dropped from \$82,259,307 to \$77,473,949; taxes rose from \$409,516 to \$2,498,467; share earnings went from 10 cents to 65 cents.

When Stevens was up for confirmation as Secretary of the Army, the unions fought his appointment, but in vain.

Attend meetings!

Newsweek Cites UMW Medical Plan As Best in U.S.

Washington (LPA)—High praise for the medical program of the United Mine Workers Welfare and Retirement Fund is sounded in a long article in the medicine section of the September 7 issue of Newsweek magazine.

Reviewing the operation and history of the Fund in detail, the article says, "the miners get more complete hospitalization protection than any other group." It also points out that a Federal Security Agency study showed that 97 per cent of the Fund's money goes for actual benefits, while commercial group health insurance "returns at most 90 per cent of the premiums, and commercial insurance sold to individuals pays out an average of only 52 percent."

Statistics compiled since the fund was set up in 1946, Newsweek says, make it appear "that the average coal miner might live forever. For since the miners organized their medicine, their average life expectancy has risen from 56.2 years to 62.5 years."

The article also noted that while "various segments of the American Medical Association have commended the UMW health plan and its accomplishments . . . the AMA is generally alarmed and disapproving of Draper's (Dr. Warren F. Draper, executive medical officer of the Fund) last plan: for the UMW to build and operate its own chain of hospitals."

Ten hospitals, with a total of 1040 beds, in Virginia, and Kentucky, are planned. Three already are under construction.

Farm Income Shows Drop

Farmers received six percent less for their crops and livestock during the first eight months of this year than in the same period of 1952, the Agriculture Department reported.

Average prices dropped 10 percent, but an increase in sales kept the cash backslide at the lower level.

The drop in farmers' income has been reflected in recent weeks in a reduction in sales by manufacturers of farm equipment and other items the farmer buys. As a result, thousands of workers have been laid off at such plants as International Harvester and Deere.

Economists pointed out that every major depression in history was preceded by a drop in farm income.

Teamsters, Bakers Sign Mutual Pact

Chicago (LPA)—The Teamsters and the Bakery and Confectionery Workers signed a 10-year mutual assistance pact here September 3 and Teamsters President Dave Beck said it was one of a series of such agreements he would endeavor to obtain with other unions.

"The Teamsters," he said, "will respect the jurisdiction of every union. Because they touch every industry, the Teamsters will aid all other unions within their jurisdictions."

Under the agreement announced

by James G. Cross, B&CW president, at the union's headquarters, the two AFL unions will coordinate their efforts in organizing, negotiating any jurisdictional dispute and provide for joint aid in negotiating contracts.

The Teamsters in April joined with the Machinists in signing an agreement on jurisdiction and mutual cooperation, then launched a joint campaign to organize an estimated million employees in the auto repair and service industries throughout the country.



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Labor News

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1953

Unionists Honor 'Billy' Walls, Ex-Dep. Labor Commissioner

Labor leaders of Santa Clara County joined in a dinner party last week at Vahl's Club in Alviso to greet William J. ("Billy") Walls, retired deputy labor commissioner for this area and to wish him and his charming wife "bon voyage" on the eve of a trip into Mexico.

Walls was paid high tribute by state and county officials, his successor, leading county attorneys, state and local labor officials, local businessmen, industrialists, and others at the dinner party, which was instigated by Otto E. Sargent, secretary of the Santa Clara County Building Trades Council.

A testimonial from Governor Earl Warren to Walls was read by Edward P. Park, state labor commissioner and former superior officer to the deputy commissioner.

Eugene Barry, deputy labor commissioner formerly in San Francisco and now assigned to duty to serve Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Mateo counties as successor to Walls, was introduced and spoke briefly.

Flora D'Augustine, Walls' capable assistant for the 8 years and 9 months he served this area and office manager for the deputy labor commission headquarters in San Jose, sat at the table with Mr. and Mrs. Walls, adding her words of cheer.

Santa Clara County District Attorney N. J. Menard told of the cooperation between the labor commission office and the county government.

Other attorneys introduced, all who have served the A. F. of L. unions in the area, were I. B. Padway, Arthur L. Johnson and Robert Morgan, the latter present with his law partner, Victor H. Beauzay.

Speaking for the California State Federation of Labor was Thomas A. Small, of San Mateo, district vice president, who voiced praise for Walls' 27 years of service to the state.

Local labor was represented in the short speaking program by Walter L. Jones, president of the Santa Clara County Central Labor Council; Otto E. Sargent, building trades council secretary, and F. O. Jorgensen, secretary of the District Council of Carpenters.

Introduced as special guests at the party were Marcia Patterson, of the Division of Wages and Hours enforcement department; Herbert J. Williamson, referee for the State Industrial Accident Commission; Frank Iusi, of the San Jose Real Estate Board; Ken Wilhelm, of the Santa Clara County Farm Bureau; Harry Smith, of Permanente Metals Corp., and others.

Entertainment for the party included accordion numbers by Geno Meschi, noted San Jose musician.

Walls and his wife disclosed plans for their trip to Mexico. The retired commissioner was presented with an attractive wallet, in which the unions and officials had placed a substantial sum in cash to help defray expenses of the coming trip. Walls also was presented with an autograph book, signed by all in attendance at the testimonial dinner.

Master of ceremonies for the event was Bill Pedigo, news editor for labor papers of the area.

Carp. Auxiliary Plans Monthly Card Parties

Monterey Ladies Auxiliary of Carpenters Union 1323 held the first of a series of monthly card parties (whist) last Saturday. Next party is scheduled at Carpenters Hall, Oct. 17.

Mrs. Charles Morlar of Marina was chairman for the last party of the unit.

At the Sept. 3 business meeting, Mrs. Maude Gruber was initiated as a new member.

Weather Hurts Fishing Effort

Fogs and other adverse weather have kept Monterey fishing boats from finding local anchovies, it was reported last week. Only one load of anchovies was packed last week, along with some local albacore.

Lester A. Caveny, business agent of Monterey Fish Cannery Workers Union, was vacationing last week in Alpine County. Friends said he was hoping to do some deer hunting.

Arbuckle Better

E. R. Arbuckle, business manager of Salinas Plumbers Union 503, was reported much better last week after a prolonged illness. Friends said he was taken home from the hospital in San Jose and is able to get up and around the house. He expects to return to his union duties shortly.



DURKIN WITH PLUMBERS DELEGATES—Former Labor Secy. Martin Durkin sits with the Plumbers delegation of the convention of the Metal

Trades dept., AFL, held in St. Louis prior to the AFL convention.

Here Is Ike's Letter Accepting Durkin Resignation

Washington (LPA)—Here is the text of President Eisenhower's letter accepting the resignation of Martin P. Durkin as Secretary of Labor:

"Dear Martin:

"As I told you this morning, I deeply in regret the necessity expressed in your letter of August thirty-first compelling you to return to private life. I have no course, however, but to respect your wishes, and to accept your resignation as of this date.

"You will be both missed and remembered. I say this not only with the warmth of a friend, but also as one deeply concerned with all the problems that are the special charge of the Department of Labor.

"Your patient skill and rich experience have been of unique value. They have enabled you, in a remarkably short time, to summon talent and to initiate policies that can inspire a truly effective Department of Labor in the future. You know, I believe, beyond the need of reiteration, my personal conviction that the principal key to the strength of our working democracy is the assurance of both industrial peace and the vitality of our free labor unions. The extent to which these purposes can be served by the federal government in large measure depends upon the vigor and capacity of our Department of Labor. You can be sure that these simple convictions—which, I know, you fully share and which have governed our decisions to this date—will prevail with equal force in the future.

"I sincerely extend to you my warm wishes for a career of renewed distinction in whatever you undertake, and my lasting appreciation for the spirit of unselfish service that has characterized your work in this administration.

"Sincerely,
"Dwight D. Eisenhower."

Eighty per cent of accidents at railroad grade crossings in California last year were in clear weather.

MEANY, HUTCHESON JOINT STATEMENT ON CARPENTERS

(State Fed. Release)

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America came back to the AFL recently after 27 days of separation which began August 12 when the union withdrew during the quarterly AFL Executive Council meeting in Chicago.

A joint statement issued by AFL President George Meany and Carpenters' President Maurice A. Hutcheson announced the reaffiliation move September 8.

The Brotherhood of Carpenters was one of the founding unions of the AFL in 1881. Peter J. McGuire, first president of the Carpenters, was co-founder of the American Federation of Labor and father of Labor Day.

Official notification of the reaffiliation was sent from AFL headquarters to all State Federations of Labor, city central bodies, the Building and Construction Trades Department, and the Metal Trades Department. The notification rescinded previous instructions to drop the union and its locals from affiliation.

The Meany-Hutcheson statement follows in full:

JOINT STATEMENT

"A committee representing the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor and a committee representing the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America met September 8 at the office of the American Federation of Labor to discuss the problems which led to the withdrawal of the Carpenters from the American Federation of Labor last month.

"The committee unanimously agreed that the elimination of raiding is a step toward unity in the labor movement; that raids in or between the affiliates of the American Federation of Labor, in the past, have brought about disunity within our own ranks; that money spent to resist raids and defend matters brought to the courts by raiding organizations is an expenditure that has a tendency toward disunity rather than unity.

"We also agreed that the American Federation of Labor should adopt some policy definitely designed to prevent raids within our own organization.

"It was agreed by members of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor present at this meeting that this statement would be brought to the attention of the Executive Council at the meeting to be held prior to the convention in St. Louis on the 21st of this month, for the purpose of bringing in a recommendation to the forthcoming convention, which, if adopted by the convention, will definitely eliminate raids between AFL organizations.

"Under these circumstances, the Carpenters' committee informed the officers of the American Federation of Labor that they were continuing their membership in the AFL."

Truman Raps GOP for Giving Rich All Breaks, Worker None

Detroit (LPA)—Former President Harry S. Truman, who had withheld comment on the Republican Administration while it was getting started, told an AFL-CIO Labor Day rally here what he thought of the GOP's record to date. It wasn't complimentary.

"There are plenty of signs," he told the 15,000 people who gathered to hear his third Labor Day address in this city, "of the return of that old philosophy that the object of government is to help big business—on the theory that if big business is well off, enough of its wealth and income will trickle down to the rest of the population to keep the system going."

He noted that such an "unhealthy distribution of the national income" had been responsible for the big depression that started in 1929, and declared that while the majority of the people voted last fall for a change in the political party controlling the government, he didn't think they voted for that kind of a change.

One "perfect example of that discredited trickle-down theory," Truman said, is the increase in interest rates that "may be to the benefit of the money lenders, but it surely does hurt the rest of the people."

"There are other signs," he said, "that the Government is no longer concerned with the welfare of all of us. Our great public housing program, which was helping to clear America's slums, has been condemned to death. Funds for enforcement of the minimum wage law, which protects the lowest paid of our workers, have been

drastically cut. And the farmer, who lives with greater hazard than perhaps any of us, is being told that he ought to 'go it alone' again—as he did during the long farm depression that began right after World War I. You should hear the farmer weep and wail and ask forgiveness for voting as he did last fall; at least, that is true in my part of the country."

Other casualties of the GOP big business administration, Truman said, have been public power and billions of dollars in off-shore oil given away "to pay a political debt." Promises of revising Taft-Hartley and improving social security haven't been fulfilled either, he declared, and added that he "doubted very much" if they will be.

He urged his audience not "to take these things lying down. You can't hope to change the philosophy of these people who are now in Washington; but if you watch them closely and raise your voices loud and clear, you may be able to salvage some of these things. After all, they are politicians, and they are influenced by public opinion."

Seventy-six per cent of workers killed in industrial accidents in California in 1952 left widows; 43 per cent minor dependents.



ANSWER TO JUVENILE CRIME—School-age members of AFL Retail Clerks Local 770 in Los Angeles appeared on their local's television program to explain how union organization cuts down on juvenile delinquency by assuring young workers decent hours and pay adequate to meet the needs

of teen-agers and provide a savings fund for future education. Program Moderator Bill Orago is at right. During last part of the program, the boys answered telephone questions on union dues, meetings, etc. (LPA)